

progestative fraction of 1 to 3, at the beginning of their menstrual cycles for 21 up to 28 days and a placebo for the balance of the 28 day cycle to ensure good control of the menstrual cycle.

Claim 19. A method of claim 18, wherein the dose of nomegestrol as an acetate is 0.1 mg to 2.5 mg per unit dosage.

Claim 20. A method of claim 18, wherein the dose of nomegestrol as an acetate is 0.3 to 1.25 mg per unit dosage.

Claim 21. The method of claim 18, wherein the dose of estradiol or of one of the esters thereof is 0.3 to 3 mg, expressed as estradiol.

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Claim 22. The method of claim 18, wherein the dose of estradiol or its esters is 0.5 mg to 2 mg, expressed as estradiol.

Claim 23. The method of claim 18, wherein a combination of 0.625 mg of nomegestrol acetate and 0.5 mg of estradiol is administered daily.

Claim 24. The method of claim 18, wherein a combination of 0.625 mg of nomegestrol acetate and 1 mg of estradiol is administered daily.

Claim 25. The method of claim 18, wherein a combination of 0.625 mg of nomegestrol acetate and 1.5 mg of estradiol is administered daily.

Claim 26. The method of claim 18, wherein a combination of 0.625 mg of nomegestrol cetate and 2 mg of estradiol is administered daily.

Claim 27. The method of claim 18, wherein a combination of 0.3 mg of nomegestrol acetate and 1 mg of estradiol is administered daily.

Claim 28. The method of claim 18, wherein a combination of 0.3 mg of nomegestrol acetate and 1.5 mg of estradiol is administered daily.

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Claim 29. The method of claim 18, wherein the contraceptive formulation of claim 18 is in a form of plain or film-coated tablets, sugar-coated tablets, soft gelatin capsules, wafer capsules, pills, cachets or powders.

REMARKS

Consideration of this application is requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented herein.

The claims in the application are new claims, which have been numbered from 18 to 29, all the previous claims have been cancelled.

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner in charge of the application and Jose Dees, her supervisor, for the courtesies extended to him and to Dr. Burtin, the French attorney for the applicants as well as